

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /074 W
-----037839 130513Z /20/47
R 101105Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8466

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 4668 VICE 4468)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, AF
SUBJECT: A GIFT TO THE DRA FROM AN UNEXPECTED SOURCE

1. RADIO AFGHANISTAN, UNE 8, REPORTED THAT ABDUL MAJID ZABULI IN A LETTER DATED JUNE 2. TO PRESIDENT TARAKI, HAD CONTRIBUTED THE FOLLOWING TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN: ONE MILLION AFGHANIS FOR STUDENTS; 180 MILLION AFGHANIS OF HIS OWN MONEY FROM BANKE MILLI'S PENSION FUND; ONE "PALACE" WITH 14 JERIBS OF LAND (7 ACRES) IN KABUL; ONE "PALACE" IN PAGHMAN WITH 16 JERIBS OF LAND; TWO MORE GARDENS AND TWO MORE "PALACES" IN KABUL, AND PALACES, GARDENS AND 14,500 JERIBS OF LAND NEAR HERAT. TOTAL VALUE OF THE GIFT WAS 325 MILLION AFGHANIS (MORE THAN \$7 MILLION).

2. COMMENT: BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. ZABULI, NOW IN HIS EIGHTIES AND RESIDENT IN BOSTON, IS AFGHANISTAN'S MOST SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMAN, THE FOUNDER OF BANKE MILLIE (1930) AND THE FIRST AFGHAN JOINT-STOCK COMPANY (1924). HE IS ALSO THE FATHER OF THE MODERN COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN AFGHANISTAN. ZABULI'S ANTIPATHY TO DAOUD IS WELL-KNOWN. HE ABANDONED AFGHANISTAN MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS AGO DURING DAOUD'S RULE AS PRIME MINISTER
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AND DIRECTED HIS BUSINESSES VIA YEARLY BOARD MEETINGS IN PARIS. HIS SON, ABDUL MADJID, HOLDS THE COCA COLA FRANCHISE HERE, AND HIS PROTEGE FAZL KHAIRZADA WAS ACTING PRESIDENT OF BANKE MILLI BEFORE THE COUP AND REMAINS AS VICE PRESIDENT. THE IMMEDIATE QUESTION REGARDING THE REPORTED GIFT IS WHY? PERHAPS ZABULI HOPES HIS GENEROSITY WILL HELP PROTECT FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN AFGHANISTAN. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

DECLASSIFY DECEMBER 31, 1979.

ELIOT

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JUNTA, GIFTS, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Line Count: 64
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0bb2bf8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: A GIFT TO THE DRA FROM AN UNEXPECTED SOURCE
TAGS: EGEN, EFIN, PGOV, AF, (ZABULI, ABDUL MAJID)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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